

A VIEW from the ARBOR



Fall 2010

Expansions and Renovations at The Arbor

Smart & Final Expands in Lake Forest

Smart & Final saw an opportunity to expand its operations and enhance service offerings to the community when Office Depot vacated the adjacent tenant suite. Smart & Final will occupy the entire 40,000 square foot building located in the Twin Peaks shopping center on El Toro Road and Raymond Way. The building was originally constructed in the 1970s and will undergo a dramatic transformation in the following months to become the new home of SmartCo.

In April, Smart & Final received approval from the City and Redevelopment Agency to move forward with the expansion and renovation. Some of the interior improvements include combining the two suites, adding floor space for new merchandise, and a new deli counter and bakery. The exterior improvements will bring many architectural upgrades to the building, new landscaping, and a pedestrian walkway in front of the store to complement the fresh, new look of the building.

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Proposed rendering of remodel

Smart & Final Expands from page 1

Construction is currently underway and, when completed, will result in an entirely new customer experience, offering many new items and an updated look that will more closely resemble the Craftsman look of the renovated shopping centers on El Toro Road. Look for the reopening of the new SmartCo on El Toro Road soon!



Existing Smart & Final suite



Existing Vacant suite

Former Vons Store Gets New Tenants

Two new stores are coming soon to the shopping center on the corner of El Toro Road and Trabuco Road. Formerly home to Vons, the shopping center will undergo a complete renovation in the coming months to prepare for the arrival of Walgreens and Fresh & Easy.

Renovation plans include a new parking lot, landscaping, pedestrian walkway, and architectural upgrades to the buildings in the center. This major project represents significant private reinvestment in the continued revitalization of El Toro Road.

As shown in the artist's rendering, some of the Craftsman architectural improvements include stone veneer columns and a prominent gable roof in the center of the main building. The remodel will match the design of the building currently occupied by US Bank.



Existing building under construction

In conjunction with the exterior renovations, Fresh & Easy is currently improving its interior space to accommodate services and products to the local community. Construction is currently ongoing, and Fresh & Easy is scheduled to open in November 2010. Walgreen's opening date is unknown at this time.



Artist rendering of proposed renovations

New at The Arbor on El Toro

More Reasons to Shop and Dine in Lake Forest!



Cafe Rio Mexican Grill Opens in Lake Forest

In January, Lake Forest welcomed Cafe Rio Mexican Grill's first restaurant in California and its 27th nationwide. The popular Mexican restaurant was recently awarded the Sandelman and Associates' 2009 Quick-Track Award #1 Mexican restaurant in the nation for overall customer satisfaction. Cafe Rio Mexican Grill is located in the Hunter Court Shopping Center (previously Shops at Lake Forest,) on El Toro Road and Rockfield Blvd next to Ross, CVS, and Petco. Cafe Rio Mexican Grill incorporated Craftsman-style architecture in the design of its building.



"Our recipes are inspired from traditional cooking found in the Rio Grande region of Northern Mexico, Southern Texas and New Mexico," said Ben Craner, V.P. of Marketing for Cafe Rio Mexican Grill. "Our

big customer favorites are the Sweet Pork Barbacoa burritos served enchilada style, and the Sweet Pork Barbacoa salads with Creamy Tomatillo Dressing."

Since January, Cafe Rio Mexican Grill has opened four more locations in California but remains fond of Lake Forest. "The Lake Forest community has been great. It opened its arms and welcomed us," adds Craner. "We chose to locate in Lake Forest because of its strong family-based community and active lifestyle."

Cafe Rio Mexican Grill takes pride in making all of its food from scratch every day, not having any freezers or microwaves in its restaurants, and preparing all food with the highest quality and freshest ingredients available. The menu features multiple award winning burritos, salads, nachos, quesadillas, enchiladas and tacos, all prepared daily in open view kitchens and served with home-made, hand rolled tortillas.

Stop by Cafe Rio Mexican Grill for lunch or dinner today and discover how they make "Every Meal a Masterpiece!"

Lake Forest Welcomes The Habit Burger Grill

In 1969, 16-year-old Brent Reichard got his first job at The Habit Burger Grill in Santa Barbara. He loved working there so much that after a few years, he convinced his brother that

they should take out a small business loan and buy the restaurant. More than 30 years later, the Habit Burger Grill opened its 35th location in California at The Orchard shopping center on El Toro Road.

The Habit moved into the former Johnny Rockets location in The Orchard in June with a complete remodel that features Craftsman-style architecture and complements the shops at The Orchard. The Habit held a "free burger day" for the community prior to officially opening. The restaurant also opened for a few hours to donate 100% of its proceeds to Savannah's Organic Ranch, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting healthy eating for children and fighting rare forms of cancer.

The Habit remains true to its slogan "There's no Substitute for Quality!" by chargrilling burgers over an open flame and using fresh meats and ingredients for every entrée. The Habit makes each sandwich and burger to order. "Customers love our signature Charburger and our double char with cheese," shares Mike Mirkil, V.P. of Marketing for The Habit. "They're great with our fries or onion rings and hand blended malts."

Lake Forest is now home to the third Orange County location and the first in South Orange County. "We are excited to be located in The Arbor," said Mirkil. "Our Lake Forest location is our largest restaurant and features an outdoor patio for our customers."



More New Shops at The Orchard...

The Orchard shopping center welcomed several new businesses over the past year including Sushi Rei Izakaya, Yogurtland, and Cox Solutions Store.



Left to right: Sushi Rei Izakaya features casual-style Japanese cuisine. Yogurtland offers a variety of unique frozen yogurt flavors including Chocolate Coconut Truffle and Red Velvet Coconut Batter. Customers at the Cox Solutions Store can purchase and exchange cable or internet equipment or sign up for phone services. This store is Cox's Communications' fifth location in Orange County.

Make sure you check out The Habit Burger Grill and all the great shops at The Orchard. It's a perfect mix of shopping and dining in Lake Forest!

Streetscape Projects Along El Toro Road

Maintaining and improving the conditions of our public roads is a major goal of the City and Redevelopment Agency. Streetscape projects help improve traffic flow and beautify the roadway through the use of landscaped medians and parkways. There are currently three streetscape projects in design: (1) The Jeronimo Road Streetscape Project (Los Alisos Boulevard to El Toro Road), (2) El Toro Road Streetscape, Phase 1 (Muirlands Boulevard to Jeronimo Road), and (3) Rockfield Streetscape Project (Los Alisos Boulevard to El Toro Road).

Construction for all three projects is scheduled to begin in the coming months. Improving the public spaces encourages private investment and revitalization as has been the case with the improvements to El Toro Road.



Artist rendering of Jeronimo Road Streetscape Project with the proposed landscaped medians.